

NEWS RELEASE

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Carol A. Murray, Commissioner

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NATIONALLY KNOWN WORKPLACE SAFETY ADVOCATE COMING TO NH
"THE FIGHT PROJECT" FOUNDER RON HAYES TO SPEAK IN CONCORD

An Alabama man who turned his grief over the death of his son into a national battle for safer workplaces will be the featured speaker at the New Hampshire Department of Transportation's Traffic Bureau Safety Day in Concord on May 7.

Ron Hayes founded The FIGHT (Families in Grief Hold Together) Project following the tragic death of his 19-year old son Patrick in a grain silo accident in Florida in 1993. Hayes' efforts resulted in the revision of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) grain handling standards. His organization has also become a national clearinghouse for workplace safety issues, as well as a support organization for families and workers dealing with the consequences of workplace accidents.

Time Magazine recognized Ron Hayes as a "Local Hero" in 1997. By that time, The FIGHT Project had helped 300 families in 40 states who had lost relatives in workplace accidents with counseling on legal rights and "cutting through bureaucratic red tape". Occupation Hazards Magazine named Hayes a co-winner of its "2000 Champions of Safety Award".

A former x-ray technician, Ron Hayes now travels throughout the country speaking on workplace safety. His presentation, "Safety a Good Fight", will take place on Friday, May 7, 2004 from 8:00 AM to 9:30 AM at the Bureau of Traffic Safety Day on NH Route 106 in Concord.